In the Claims

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for moving a latching pin a lateral distance between a latch position and an unlatch position to connect first and second separable members, the apparatus comprising;

a flange on the first separable member;

a latch mechanism on the second separable member comprising:

a rotatable handle that defines a plane of rotation when rotated about an axis of rotation;

a latching pin connected to the rotatable handle wherein a central axis of the latching pin is substantially perpendicular to the plane of rotation and substantially coincident with the axis of rotation of the handle; ~~and~~

a latching pin guide that engages and guides the latching pin along the central axis in response to rotation of the handle; and

a keeper mechanism that defines a channel within which the latching pin is present when the latching pin is in the latch position; and

wherein the mounting flange on the first separable member is inserted into the channel when the first and second separable members are to be connected and wherein the flange includes a hole through which the latching pin passes to connect the first and second separable members.

2. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the latching pin comprises a cam pin that engages the latching pin guide.

3. (original) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the cam pin is fixed to the latching pin perpendicular to the central axis of the latching pin and wherein the latching pin guide comprises a cam disposed circumferentially about the latching pin and wherein the cam commprises a circumferential cam slot that defines an arc having a lateral component equal to the lateral distance and a circumferential component equal to a predetermined amount of rotation of

the rotatable handle, and wherein the cam pin protrudes through the cam slot and rides in the cam slot to guide the latching pin along the lateral distance in response to rotation of the handle.

4. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 comprising a biasing spring that urges the latching pin toward the latch position.

5. (canceled).

6. (original) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the cam pin protrudes through the handle and the latching pin to fix the handle and latching pin together.

7. (original) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the arc defined by the cam slot has a detent portion at an end corresponding to the latch position of the latching pin.

8. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the second separable member is ~~handle and latching pin are connected to~~ a detachable panel.

9. (original) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the handle is adapted to be a carrying means for the detachable panel when it is detached.

10. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein a grip extension of the handle extends along an axis generally perpendicular to the central axis of the latching pin.

11. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the handle is rigidly connected to the latching pin.

12. (currently amended) A fairing system comprising at least one fairing for being installed on a side of a truck , the fairing comprising a hinge at a lower portion about which the

fairing is pivoted between a closed position and an open position, the fairing system also comprising an apparatus for removably latching the fairing to the truck, the apparatus comprising:

a flange on the truck;

a latch mechanism on the fairing comprising:

a rotatable handle that defines a plane of rotation when rotated about an axis of rotation;

a latching pin connected to the rotatable handle wherein a central axis of the latching pin is substantially perpendicular to the plane of rotation and substantially coincident with the axis of rotation of the handle; ~~and~~

a latching pin guide that engages and guides the latching pin along the central axis in response to rotation of the handle, wherein the latching pin engages latching features on the truck to maintain the fairing in the closed position; and

a keeper mechanism that defines a channel within which the latching pin is present when the latching pin is in the latch position; and

wherein the mounting flange on the truck is inserted into the channel when the truck and fairing are to be connected and wherein the flange includes a hole through which the latching pin passes to connect the truck and the fairing.

13. (original) The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the latching pin comprises a cam pin that engages the latching pin guide.

14. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the cam pin is fixed to the latching pin perpendicular to the central axis of the latching pin and wherein the latching pin guide comprises a cam disposed circumferentially about the latching pin and wherein the cam comprises a circumferential cam slot that defines an arc having a lateral component equal to the lateral distance and a circumferential component equal to a predetermined amount of rotation of the rotatable handle, and wherein the cam pin protrudes through the cam slot and rides in the cam

slot to guide the latching pin along the lateral distance in response to rotation of the handle.

15. (original) An apparatus for ~~moving a latching pin a lateral distance between a latch position and an unlatch position~~ connecting first and second separable members, the apparatus comprising;

connection means on the first separable member; and

a latch mechanism on the second separable member comprising:

rotatable hand grip means that define a plane of rotation when rotated about an axis of rotation;

latching means connected to the hand grip means wherein a central axis of the latching means is substantially perpendicular to the plane of rotation and substantially coincident with the axis of rotation of the hand grip means; and

guide means that engages and guides the latching means along the central axis in response to rotation of the handle; and

a keeper means that defines a channel within which the latching means is present when the latching means is in a latch position; and

and wherein the connection means on the first separable member is inserted into the channel when the first and second separable members are to be connected and wherein the connection means includes a hole through which the latching pin passes to connect the first and second separable members.

16. (original) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the latching means comprises a cam pin that engages the latching pin guide.

17. (original) The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the cam pin is fixed to the latching means perpendicular to the central axis of the latching means and wherein the guide means comprises a cam disposed circumferentially about the latching means and wherein the cam

comprises a circumferential cam slot that defines an arc having a lateral component equal to the lateral distance and a circumferential component equal to a predetermined amount of rotation of the rotatable handle, and wherein the cam pin protrudes through the cam slot and rides in the cam slot to guide the latching means along the lateral distance in response to rotation of the handle.

18. (original) The apparatus of claim 15 comprising a biasing means that urges the latching means toward the latch position.

19. (original) The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the arc defined by the cam slot has a detent portion at an end corresponding to the latch position of the latching means.

20. (original) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein a grip extension of the hand grip means extends along an axis generally perpendicular to the central axis of the latching pin.

21. (original) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the hand grip means is rigidly connected to the latching means.

22. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the flange further ~~comprising~~ comprises a mounting tab ~~connected to a stationary member separate from the apparatus wherein the mounting tab~~ that includes a mounting hole configured to loosely engage the latching pin when the latching pin is in the latch position.

23. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the flange further ~~comprising~~ comprises a mounting tab connected to side of the truck wherein the mounting tab includes a mounting hole configured to loosely engage the latching pin when the latching pin is in the latch position.

24. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the connection means

further ~~comprising~~ comprises a mounting ~~means~~ tab connected to a stationary member separate from the apparatus wherein the mounting tab includes a mounting hole configured to loosely engage the latching ~~pin~~ means when the latching ~~pin~~ means is in the latch position.